

REMARKS:

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks please reconsider the current application.

In amending the claims, some claims have been cancelled and some new claims have been added so that the total number of claims is 20 among which five (5) are independent. The total of independent claims is now 5, and accordingly there are two extra independent claims. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees for the two extra independent claims (2 X \$100 = \$200) and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No: 01-0310.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of previously submitted dependent claim 2 which the examiner indicated was allowable subject matter and accordingly independent claim 1 should now be in condition for allowance.

Claim 17 has been accepted in the form allowed by the examiner.

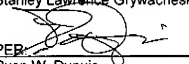
New independent claim 18 comprises the subject matter of previously submitted claim 5 including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim in order to be in condition for allowance as previously indicated by the examiner.

New independent claims 22 and 24 similarly comprise previously submitted dependent claims 8 and 9 respectively in an independent form in order to be in condition for allowance as previously indicated by the examiner.

The dependent claims have been amended in order to be consistent with the amendments to the independent claims noted above.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted  
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